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DEC 3 0 2003

In re Application of:

GUST et al.

Serial No.: 09/806,540 Filed: March 30, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: 9138-0032

SUA SPONTE

DECISION WITHDRAWING HOLDING OF

ABANDONMENT

This is a decision, *sua sponte*, withdrawing the holding of abandonment of the above-identified application.

The application was held abandoned for failure to timely file a response to the Office action mailed on February 12, 2003. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on September 23, 2003.

A review of the written record indicates that a proper response to the Office action was previously filed on August 12, 2003, but not matched with the application prior to the mailing of the Notice of Abandonment. The response includes a request for a three-month extension of time and an amendment. Since the response was timely filed, the abandonment of the application was premature. Therefore, the application was not abandoned in fact.

For the above stated reason, the Notice of Abandonment is hereby vacated and the holding of abandonment withdrawn. The application is restored to pending status.

The application file is being forwarded to the examiner for consideration of the response.

Inquiries related to this decision should be directed to Clayton E. LaBalle at (703) 308-0519.

Janice A Falcone, Director

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